

Law and Finance Committee Minutes
March 12, 2014 – 4:00 p.m.

Present: Chairman Veitch; Supervisors Collyer, Daly, Grattidge, Kinowski, Lewza, Wright, Sausville, Raymond. Lunde, Lawler, Lent, Peck, Johnson and Wood; Carl Zeilman, Ed Tremblay, Emergency Services; Sandi Cross, Office for the Aging; Joanne Bosley, Real Property; Brian O’Conor, Auditor; Shauna Sutton, Deputy County Clerk; Craig Hayner, County Clerk; Frank McClement, Veterans; Jennifer Barrett, Employment and Training; Sam Pitcheralle, Treasurer; Ryan Moore, Deputy Administrator; Patrick McAuliffe, Intern Town of Milton; Press.

Chairman Veitch called the meeting to order and welcomed all in attendance.

On a motion made by Mr. Wright, seconded by Mr. Kinowski the minutes of the February 12, 2014 meeting were approved unanimously.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

- **Authorizing the acceptance of a three-year NYS Department of Labor grant in the amount of \$640,000 for the Disability Employment Initiative in Saratoga, Warren and Washington counties, authorizing the agreements necessary for Rehabilitation Initiatives, LLC to provide the services funded through this grant and amending the 2014 budget in relation thereto.**
- **Authorizing the Chairman to sign a Memorandum of Understanding for the purpose of conducting a regional traffic study in Saratoga County in the area impacted by developments in, and in the area proximate to, the Luther Forest Technology Campus, subject to review and approval by the County Attorney.**
- **Forwarding the draft Saratoga County Economic Development Strategic Plan, including any additional revisions to be suggested by Supervisors, to the full Board of Supervisors for consideration at its regularly scheduled meeting on March 18, 2014.**

Mr. Hellwig said the first item is a Disability Employment Initiative, which is 100% state funded and will provide a Disability Resource Coordinator to each of the one stop centers in Saratoga, Warren and Washington Counties for a three year period.

The second resolution will authorize the Chairman to sign a Memorandum of Understanding between the partners in the regional traffic study for the Luther Forest Technology area. Those partners include the County, Towns of Malta and Stillwater, IDA, State Department of Transportation, Capital District Transportation Committee, The Center for Economic Growth, as well as Global Foundries. The County has budgeted \$50,000 for 2014 as a part of the Capital Plan to cover their contribution to the study.

The final item is the sending of a Draft Saratoga County Strategic Plan to the Full Board of Supervisors for their review and comment. If they so choose, the Economic Development Committee as well as the Law and Finance Committee have each had an opportunity to read through the Draft and offer suggestions for improvements. Work continues with the consultant that prepared the plan, TIP Strategies, to incorporate any and all suggestions

Mr. Veitch thanked the Economic Development Committee for all the hard work that they did on the proposal. He said he has read through the plan and he believes it is a great plan with a lot of great aspects. He said the county is looking forward to implanting those aspects and doing everything they can to help all communities in Saratoga County achieve their goals.

On a motion made by Mr. Grattidge, seconded by Mr. Lewza the above resolutions were approved unanimously.

VETERANS

- **Urging the enactment of State Legislation (S.5961/A.8254) that will prevent Motor Vehicle Departments from charging amendment fees against veterans who wish to have their veteran status displayed on their driver's license or non-driver ID.**

Mr. Hellwig said the above Legislation has been supported by the County Clerk; Craig Hayner, and will be sponsored in the NYS Senate by Senator Marchione. The resolution supports a bill that will amend the vehicle and traffic law that will eliminate the fee that Veterans are currently paying in situations where they are seeking a Veterans notation on their license during a non-renewal period. Currently, there is a fee of \$12.50.

On a motion made by Mr. Wright, seconded by Mr. Kinowski the above resolution was approved unanimously.

PERSONNEL AND INSURANCE

- **Appointing James E. Walsh as the Saratoga County Conflict Defender for a term to expire on December 31, 2015.**

Mr. Hellwig said the above item is a recommendation to appoint James E. Walsh to fill the position of Conflict Defender. The Search Committee, which included the Board Chairman, Chairman of Law and Finance, Personnel Chairman, Public Safety Chairman, as well as the Personnel Director and County Administrator conducted interviews over a two day period. There were ten applicants that were interviewed. The recommendation of the Search Committee and the Personnel Committee is to appoint Mr. Walsh to the position.

On a motion made by Ms. Daly, seconded by Mr. Grattidge the above resolution was approved unanimously.

BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS

- **Authorizing the acceptance of a \$104,400 NYS Department of Transportation AIR 99 Aviation Project Funding Grant for tree removal at the Saratoga County Airport and amending the budget in relation thereto.**
- **Authorizing the Chairman to enter into an agreement with McFarland Johnson for engineering services associated with tree removal at the Saratoga County Airport in the amount of \$27,000.**
- **Authorizing a six month lease extension with the United States Department of Agriculture for office space in Building #5 at a rate of \$20.26 per square foot per year from April 1, 2014 through September 30, 2014.**

Mr. Hellwig said the first item is to accept an Aviation Project Funding Grant which will be used for the removal of trees that are currently obstructing the rotating beacon at the county airport. The total project cost is \$116,000, which will be shared, 90% State or \$104,400 and the remaining 10% will be supplied by the County.

The second item is the engineering services related to the project that is also funded 90% through State Aid with a 10% County share.

The third resolution is for authorization to extend a lease agreement with the United States Department of Agriculture. This is for the USDA for office space that is in County Building 5 that is occupied by Natural Resources Conservation Services. The extension is being done at an increase of 3% over the expiring rate. There is a lengthy delay in terms of them getting the necessary approvals, but they have indicated that they expect them within the next six months.

On a motion made by Mr. Lewza, seconded by Mr. Collyer the above resolutions were approved unanimously.

PUBLIC SAFETY

- **Proclaiming April 6 – April 12, 2014 as National Crime Victims’ Rights Week**
- **Authorizing the Chairman to accept a \$2,280,500 Interoperability Grant from the NYS Division of Homeland Security and amending the budget in relation thereto.**

Mr. Hellwig said the first item is proclaiming April 6-12 as National Crime Victims’ Rights Week. There are a number of activities that are planned for this week, which can be viewed on the District Attorney’s website. The resolution reiterates the Board of Supervisors commitment to enforce victim’s rights and address their needs during this week and throughout the year as well.

The second resolution will be the acceptance of an Interoperability grant from the NYS Division of Homeland Security. Grant funds will be utilized in conjunction with the Adirondack Interoperability Consortium, and will involve the purchase of hardware and software, along with some training and equipment purchases to improve the emergency communications systems for the eleven county area.

On a motion made by Mr. Wright, seconded by Ms. Daly the above resolutions were approved unanimously.

SOCIAL PROGRAMS

- **Authorizing the Chairman to enter into an agreement with the Town of Clifton Park to provide \$25,000 in funding for the purchase of a senior transportation bus.**
- **Authorizing the Chairman to enter into an agreement with the Town of Halfmoon to provide \$25,000 in funding for the purchase of a senior transportation.**
- **Authorizing the Chairman to enter into an agreement with the A&H Services to provide transportation for seniors in the Towns of Charlton, Edinburg, Galway, Providence and Saratoga at a daily rate of \$130, at a total cost not to exceed \$27,040 annually.**
- **Authorizing the Chairman to enter into an agreement with the Senior Citizens Center of Saratoga Springs for the creation of a “Care Links of the North” program in an amount not to exceed \$15,000.**

Mr. Hellwig said the first two resolutions are for authorization to provide a \$25,000 contribution toward the purchase of senior transport vehicles. In both cases, the Town of Clifton Park and Halfmoon will both be using this money toward the purchase of a bus to transport the seniors to local programs in the town. This is 100% state aid.

The third resolution is a contract renewal for transportation services for seniors in the towns of Charlton, Galway, Providence, Edinburg and Saratoga. Two bids were received, and A&H Services was the low bidder at \$139/day.

The final resolution is for authorization to enter into an agreement with the Senior Citizens Center of Saratoga Springs. This funding for the Care Links Program will be used to cover administrative costs of organizing Senior’s in the city to act as volunteers to assist other seniors that could benefit from their support.

On a motion made by Mr. Wright, seconded by Mr. Kinowski the above resolutions were approved unanimously.

EQUILIZATION AND ASSESSMENT

- **Accepting tender offers on parcels in the Towns of Ballston (\$78,124.68), Edinburg (\$1,459.85), Milton (\$12,574.07), Stillwater (\$5,398.66) and Wilton (\$3,269.01).**

Mr. Hellwig said the above tenders offers are for three parcels in Ballston, two in Stillwater, and one parcel in Edinburg, Wilton and Milton. The amounts seen above do include all penalties and interest.

On a motion made by Mr. Collier, seconded by Mr. Grattidge the above resolution was approved unanimously.

CHAIRMANS ITEM

- **Nominating the membership of John Lawler (Economic Development Committee Chair) to the Board of Directors of the Center for Economic Growth.**

Mr. Hellwig said the Center for Economic Growth has offered the county a seat on their Board of Directors. Chairman Sausville will be nominating the Economic Development Committee Chairman, John Lawler, to fill the seat and represent the county in that capacity.

LAW AND FINANCE

- **Designating Xylem, Inc. Flygt pumps as the standard to be used in contracts dealing with new pumps in the Saratoga County Sewer District's collection system and wastewater treatment plant for reasons of efficiency and economy.**

Mr. Hellwig said the above item will designate Flygt pumps as the standard to be used for the repair or placement of any new pumps in the collection system as well as the treatment facility. The district has found that these pumps have been more reliable and require less maintenance than the older pumps that are being replaced. The manufacturer is going to be discounting the purchase price by 20% with this designation.

On a motion made by Ms. Daly, seconded by Mr. Grattidge the above item was approved unanimously.

- **Requesting Home Rule Legislation to allow for the Saratoga County Water Authority Board to consist of four elected officials and three county residents.**

Mr. Hellwig said the final item is a request for Home Rule Legislation which is needed to modify the membership requirements for the Water Authority Board, due to the fact that the existing Legislation is no longer relevant in light of the number of users that are contracting for water. A request is being made for new Legislation to be proposed to allow the Board to maintain compliance while also providing representation of the elected officials, and users.

On a motion made by Ms. Daly, seconded by Mr. Grattidge the above item was approved unanimously.

On a motion made by Ms. Daly, seconded by Mr. Wright the meeting was adjourned unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,
Chris Sansom